SUBJECT No. 205.

Octroi duty to be levied only once on the same article.

Messrs. Vishakantappa, Gundlupet Taluk; Shama Iyengar, Chamrajnagar Taluk; Chikkaramanna and Suryanaranappa, Kolar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Articles on which Octroi duty has been levied in one Municipality are again subjected to duty when taken into another for sale. The Government were pleased to state in reply to the representation on the subject last year that early orders would be passed in the matter.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 206.

Levy of shop-tax in Unions in addition to the house-tax.

Mr. Shanbhog Hanumantappa, District Board Member, Chitaldrug.
Mr. Tirunarana Iyengar, Hassan District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Since the conversion of the Minor Municipalities into Unions, only house-tax is ordered to be levied. This has evidently given facilities to well-to-do classes and annoyance to the poor. The former who carry on a large trade are required to pay only the house-tax of Rs. 5, the maximum limit allowed by the Rules, while the poor who possess a house and do not carry on trade have still to pay the same rate of tax for the houses. Moreover, the revenue of Unions has considerably gone down by this arrangement and does not allow of important works in them being executed for want of funds. Pray that the levy of shop-tax, etc., may be revived, so that the finances of the Unions may be improved.

Reply of Government.—See order recently passed, No. 11,424-32,—L. B. 193-04-6, dated 15th January 1905. This subject will receive further consideration in view to the rules being altered, if deemed desirable.

SUBJECT No. 207.

Mohatarfa scale for house-tax.

Mr. D. Gopalachar, Devanhalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present scale for the levy of house-tax entails hardship on the poor and requires revision. A graduated scale is quite necessary.

Reply of Government.—The necessity for this has been recognized. What is wanted is time and means.

SUBJECT No. 208.

Abolition of unnecessary columns in Village Mohatarfa Statement No. 13.

Mr. Lakshminaranappa, Shanbhog and Land-holder Belathur, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Since loom-tax was abolished about seven or eight years ago, the unnecessary columns relating to loom-tax printed in Village Statement No. 13, may as well be removed.

Reply of Government.—Columns from 18 to 34 may be done away with. The matter will be referred to the Revenue Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 209.

Reduction of notice fee on Mohatarfa.

Mr. D. Gopalcahar, Devanhalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The notice fee of four annas charged for a default of eight annas of Municipal tax is too heavy and may conveniently be reduced to two annas or less.

Reply of Government.—Last year's reply that this is not possible holds good this year also.

SUBJECT No. 210.

Right of collecting ferry fares and accommodation for people near rivers during floods.

Mr. Tirunarana Iyengar, Hassan District Board.

Summary of discussion.—The plying of boats, etc., in ferries is not properly regulated by rules. The right of collection of ferry fares is sold by public auction every year which makes the contractors look to their present income only. They engage inexperienced coolies on small pay who often refuse to convey passengers to the other

side even if there is a slight change of weather. To make up for loss thus caused the contractors raise the rates levied. The right of collecting ferry fares may be sold once in ten years. There is no shelter for people who have to wait when the river is in flood, or during the prevalence of high winds as persons engaged by contractors are not professional rowers who could manage the boats under such circumstances. Respectable people of the locality may be encouraged to have small huts near by, they being remunerated in return by allowing them all the manure that may be collected near the ferries. If none come forward to undertake the work, the Boards may undertake the work utilizing the amount fetched from the sale of manure for repairs to the building.

The irregularities of the contractors may be ordered to be brought to the notice of village servants or Station House Officers who should be made to report their action to the Taluk Amildars.

When passengers are necessitated to leave their carts on one side of the ferry, the patels of villages on the opposite side may be directed to fetch carts for them for hire.

Reply of Government.—Such periodical sales of the right of ferry collections do not seem to be bad. Some sheds for passengers to assemble are also desirable. The opinions of the Deputy Commissioners will be called for.

SUBJECT No. 211.

Accommodation in the Local Fund Dispensaries for respectable female patients.

Mr. Venkataramanappa, Taluk Member, Holalkere.

Summary of discussion.—As there is no separate room in the Local Fund Dispensaries situated in Taluk Headquarters and in other stations, it has been found very inconvenient for respectable female patients to wait and get treatment in such dispensaries. It is therefore proposed that a separate room may either be attached to the existing buildings or one constructed in the compounds of such buildings for the purpose.

Reply of Government.—The improvement is certainly desirable, but this is a question of funds and necessity.

SUBJECT No. 212.

Improvement of dilapidated Gokattes.

Mr. G. Gopalaiya, District Board Member, Chitaldrug.

Summary of discussion.—The dilapidated Gokattes in Government waste lands may be improved to afford water convenience to the cattle grazing in them.

Reply of Government.—This is a question of funds.

SUBJECT No. 213.

Grant of Sadilwar allowances to Patels and Shanbhogs in Municipalities.

Mr. B. Adivappa, Municipal Board Member, Harihar.

Summary of discussion.—Sadilwar allowances may be granted to patels and shanbhogs in Municipalities, according to the scale prescribed by the Survey Department for Government villages, as all the village accounts are prepared with reference to the Municipalities also, and as the amount is not included in the remuneration paid to them for collection work.

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